

## Program Description

The Children's Health Initiative (CHI) is a policy and planning unit that promotes children's health by helping families gain access to the preventive, medical and social services that they need, and by developing policies that foster an environment conducive to healthy childhood development. Some of the unit's major projects include: long-range planning for MCAH Programs; promoting the improvement of asthma management and systems of care; organizing efforts to reduce childhood and adolescent obesity; promoting early identification and intervention for children with developmental disability and delay; and collaborating with community partners to expand health care coverage to all children in Los Angeles County.

## Important Things to Know

- About one in every 12 children under 18 has asthma in Los Angeles County. Of these, nearly half had to limit their physical activities at least some of the time because of asthma, and about one in every four had to go to an ER or other urgent care facility for the condition in the past year.
- About one in every four 5th and 7th graders is overweight, and about one in every five is at-risk for being overweight.
- About one in every 10 children ages 5 and under living in Los Angeles County has some type of special health care needs (CSHCN).

For more information, please call (213) 637-8460  
or visit <http://lapublichealth.org/mch>  
and click on Children's Health Initiative.



